ſerve likewiſe to place the frame in ſuch a manner to the place where you ſtand, that you may not be able to ſtrike off any three of the marbles in a direct line, as you ſee in the above figure, where the ſtanding-place at A is immediately between the two marbles B and C. The ſize of the frame, and the diſtance to ſtand at from it, much be determined by the abilities of thoſe that are to play. An expert ſportſman would chooſe a wide frame and a long mark; while he, who knows but little of the matter, will be for the contrary.

When the ſquare is finiſhed, and the ſtanding-mark agreed on, place on the ſquare nine marbles, in the manner repreſented in the preceding plan by little black dots. Then toſs up a dump between you and your play-mate, which ſhall ſhoot firſt. Who ſhall go firſt, if you play only a ſingle game, is a very material point, as the frame, then containing all the marbles, gives a greater chance to him that ſhoots; but, if you play the beſt two in three games, then it is immaterial, as he who had the lead in the firſt game, muſt give up that point to his play-mate

mate in the ſecond; and if they win each a game, then a dump muſt be again toſſed up, to ſettle who ſhall ſhoot firſt on the conquering game. And obſerve here, that he who ſhoots out firſt thirty-one marbles clear of the frame, wins the game.

Do not ſmile at me, my little pupils, I do not mean that you are to knock out thirty-one marbles from a frame, in which nine only are placed. That I may not leave a poſſibility of being miſunderſtood, I will explain myſelf more minutely. The boy, who is to go firſt, ſtrikes as many as he can out of the frame; the ſecond-goer tries his beſt at what he leaves; the firſt-goer then aims at what eſcaped the ſecond, and ſo on till the frame is cleared. They then replace the marbles, and begin again, the firſt-goer ſtill keeping the lead, till one of them has ſtruck out thirty-one marbles, and then the game is ended.

As this has ever been my moſt favourite game, whenever I have thought it neceſſary to fly from abſtruſe and important ſtudies, for a little relaxation, to marbles; and